

## From the 2004 Strategic Plan

Approved June 30, 2004

### Goals

- I. Support high-quality, innovative instruction to improve student achievement
- II. Provide and promote high-quality educational leadership
- III. Promote safe and positive learning environments
- IV. Build department capacity to best support external needs
- V. Practice and promote effective use of all resources

### 2006-07 Focus Strategies

Develop, coordinate, and improve administrative and educational leadership skills in the State of Vermont by working with the Vermont Educational Leadership Collaborative (VELC).

In collaboration with the VSPBE, advance regulations that expand options for alternate routes to licensure that produce well qualified teachers

Engage the people of Vermont in a conversation about the quality, cost and governance of our education system, with a focus on student success combined with high standards.

Analyze performance data at all grade levels to quantify gaps in student performance (based on gender, poverty and ethnicity); then develop recommendations to address any identified gaps.

Develop options/models of technology integration to improve the delivery of high quality instruction to serve all students; Develop options/models for distance learning to improve the delivery of high quality instruction to serve all students.

See

<http://www.state.vt.us/educ/new/html/mainboard.html#strategic>

## State Board of Education 2006-2007 Meeting Dates

August 8, 2006  
September 19, 2006  
October 17, 2006  
November 14, 2006  
December 19, 2006  
January 16, 2007  
February 20, 2007  
March 20, 2007  
April 10, 2007  
May 15, 2007  
June 18-19, 2007\*  
\*Subject to change



### Vermont Department of Education

120 State Street  
Montpelier, VT 05620-2501  
(802) 828-3135

<http://www.education.vermont.gov/>

January 2007

## VERMONT STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

# WELCOME

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*Deputy Commissioner*

# WELCOME TO OUR MEETING

The Vermont State Board of Education welcomes you to our meeting and hopes this information gives you an understanding of how we conduct our meetings and how you can participate.

Each month on the third Tuesday and occasionally more frequently, the board meets in various locations around the state, preferably in schools. When the legislature is in session, we usually meet in the Montpelier area.

The board feels it is important to spend time discussing educational issues so that we are better prepared to make decisions.

The types of agenda items are:

**Updates** – These items include introductions, announcements, board member and commissioner updates and reports. They are usually brief and do not involve discussion, with the exception of questions board members may have of the commissioner after he completes his report.

**Public to be Heard** - As part of its effort to increase communications with its constituents, the Board has dedicated a portion of its monthly agenda to hearing from constituents concerning current and evolving policy issues that are within the purview of the Board. The Board invites individuals or a representative from organizations to speak during the “Public to be Heard” time slot at each Board meeting. Anyone interested in speaking to the Board

during this portion of the meeting should contact the chair, vice chair, or the commissioner in advance of the meeting. Presentations should be concise and may be accompanied by brief written summaries of oral comments.

**Discussion** – Next to these agenda items you will see “Discuss.” These items usually include some introductory remarks by the commissioner or the presenter. The board will have prepared for the discussion by reviewing materials prior to the meeting. The format allows for participation by both the board and the public. If a number of people in the audience wish to participate, the chair may structure the time, rather than the usual more flexible format. Following introductory remarks, the chair will ask board members if they have any questions or comments. After the board has had opportunity for discussion, the chair will ask if any members of the public wish to speak. During these discussions, various aspects of the agenda item might be addressed. The commissioner and department staff may also participate in the discussion.

**Action Items** – Next to these items you will see “Vote.” A discussion will be conducted in the same manner as with discussion items on the agenda. The public will have an opportunity to participate.

A motion will be made and seconded by members of the board. Once a motion is being acted upon, the public will not give further input. Following discussion, the board will vote unless the item is tabled.

**Consent Agenda** – Consent agenda items are items that normally need only minimal discussion. Some of the reasons that discussion might not be necessary are:

1. The item was discussed at a previous meeting and the board felt it would be ready for a vote at the next meeting.
2. The item relates to the normal business of the department in complying with law and state board rules, such as capital construction and school approval.

The board approves the consent agenda with comment, which allows board members to make remarks or ask questions about any item on the consent agenda prior to the vote. If a board member wishes to have in-depth discussion prior to the vote, they may request to have the item removed from the consent agenda. Items are also removed from the consent agenda when a board member feels they have a conflict of interest. Items removed from the consent agenda may be voted individually.

**Agenda Setting** – At the end of every meeting, the board takes time to discuss what will be on future agendas. Agenda items include actions necessary to comply with state and federal law, as well as work being done by the board and the department. The current month's meeting agenda and packet materials may be accessed electronically at:

<http://education.vermont.gov/new/html/board/schedule.html#packet>

**Executive Session** - Occasionally the board goes into executive session. Sometimes people who have a connection to the item being discussed are invited into executive session with the board. The board will always state the purpose for the executive session in their vote to enter executive session. No action can be taken while in executive session, but the board may vote after coming out of executive session.